

mobilizing our communities to serve and inspiring younger generations to give back where they can, they are making us a stronger and a better nation.

May God bless all of them, may God bless Texas, and may He continue to bless the greatest country on Earth, the United States of America.

In God We Trust.

COVID-19 AID PACKAGE

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, look, we all know this pandemic is not over—it is far from over—and Congress has to do its job. Families, seniors, small businesses are suffering, and they need Congress to act now before we leave town.

When we were all home over the Thanksgiving holiday, we all saw the same thing: the heartbreaking images of people, people who never have had to seek help, standing in lines for food, millions of people out of work.

Small businesses, well, they are closing. We are losing small businesses every single day, and now Federal unemployment benefits are set to expire.

Look, families are falling into poverty as a result of our inaction.

The people who are hurting are represented by Democrats and Republicans. The people who are hurting are in every district across this country.

We worked to get to a solution. In this House, we passed, twice, legislation that would provide that relief, but, at this moment, we need to come together as Democrats and Republicans.

The people who are hurting are represented by Democrats and Republicans. The solution has to come in a bipartisan form. So let's set aside our differences. Let's find common ground. Let's pass a COVID relief bill now.

LET'S EXTEND THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

(Mr. JACOBS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of extending the successful and bipartisan Paycheck Protection Program by making \$138 billion in already appropriated funds available to help more businesses that are experiencing dire and desperate need.

This week, it was reported that almost 30 percent of small businesses in New York have closed for good due to the COVID-19 epidemic, and many more will face the same fate without further aid.

\$138 billion appropriated to the PPP is just sitting here in Washington, D.C., instead of helping our Nation's small businesses.

For months, we have asked the Speaker to allow a vote on H.R. 8265, which simply enables the SBA to do

another round of grant awards, getting this \$138 billion out on the street before it is too late for many of these hard-hit businesses. This legislation is targeted, addresses a dire need across the Nation, and requires no additional Federal funds.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Speaker and her leadership to reconsider this tactic and allow this legislation to come to the floor for a vote. I am confident it will receive bipartisan support.

CONGRATULATING DR. JUDY WHITE

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Judy White on her retirement from the Riverside County Office of Education.

Known as a history maker and stereotype breaker, Dr. White has been a distinguished educator for the past 40 years. Most recently, she served as the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, where she led the county's 515 schools, ensuring that all 430,000 students in the county received the quality education they deserve.

Dr. White has dedicated her career to bettering public education throughout the Inland Empire. She encouraged students to pursue their educational dreams, and she secured millions of dollars in funding to bridge the digital divide in our communities.

There is no doubt that Dr. White has been an incredible asset to the students of Riverside County, and I am glad to have had the pleasure of working with her. She sets a high bar in everything she does, and I wish her a happy retirement and all the best in her future endeavors.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR AIR AMERICA PILOTS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I think, without question, one of the parts of our history that has been underreported is that of the great wars against communism, one of which was the Vietnam war.

One part of the Vietnam war that hasn't been discussed enough is that of Air America. It was a CIA-run operation in which they would take airlines, scrub off the markings related to the U.S. Air Force, and then fly over Laos maybe to drop off supplies, maybe to do rescue missions, both with regard to American troops and our Hmong allies.

I have the honor to introduce, together along with Congresswoman MALONEY, the bipartisan Air America Act, which will give those people who risked their lives, and many of them have died, the same retirement benefits as other people who fought for the military in the Vietnam war.

But today I would just like to salute those veterans of Air America, many of whom are still alive, some in my district, and hope that we act quickly to give them the retirement benefits that they should have had many years ago.

REMEMBERING DR. ROGER MANDLE

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, last week the arts and education communities lost a giant when Dr. Roger Mandle, the former president of the Rhode Island School of Design for more than a decade, passed away in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, at the age of 79.

I was fortunate to work closely with President Mandle during my time as mayor of Providence. He was a passionate advocate for the humanities and a visionary leader who ensured that Rhode Island remained home to the leading arts and design school in the world.

Most of all, he was an extraordinary human being and talented leader who sought to leave our world in better shape than he found it.

He recognized the influential post he held as a civic leader in the city of Providence, he understood fully the importance that great universities and colleges have to the success of cities, and he worked to ensure that RISD was an asset for Rhode Island's capital city.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

My thoughts and prayers are with Roger's wife, the renowned abstract artist Gayle Wells Mandle, and their entire family today.

LAKES FREEMAN AND SHAFER

(Mr. BAIRD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of the communities and the residents surrounding Lakes Freeman and Shafer.

This summer, these communities witnessed the water levels in Lake Freeman reach a dangerously low level. The low water levels were brought on by drought, but were exacerbated by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ruling meant to protect several species of mussels.

However well-intended the ruling, it is having devastating consequences for these communities and the city of Monticello. Local businesses are struggling to get by, property values are decreasing, and the ecosystem of the lake is threatened.

Fish and Wildlife have the power to resolve this issue, but the agency has been unable to adjust to realtime circumstances.

I brought this issue to the attention of the Department of the Interior. My hope is that our government can be responsive to the concerns of the people on a problem they have helped create.

WE MUST PASS BIPARTISAN COVID RELIEF

(Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak of the urgent need to pass bipartisan COVID-19 relief legislation as Congress works to conclude our work this year.

Families, businesses, and workers in New Hampshire are feeling the continued pain and impact of this pandemic as cases reach record highs in my State and hospitals and frontline health workers brace for the expected surge.

This week, I was pleased to see Democrats and Republicans in the House and the Senate come together to find common ground and release a promising framework that we should consider immediately. This legislation would bolster our public health and economic response to COVID-19 to help us get through the long, cold, dark winter ahead.

Democrats and Republicans won't get everything they want, but we need to come together and put politics aside.

This legislation includes new funding for the Paycheck Protection Program for small businesses, State and local funding for our first responders, extended unemployment, and critical funding to help with the distribution of the promising COVID-19 vaccine, as well as \$5 billion in funding to combat the opioid epidemic, which, tragically, continues to rage.

It is time to come together and get the job done.

□ 0915

MARIJUANA OPPORTUNITY REINVESTMENT AND EXPUNGEMENT ACT OF 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1244, I call up the bill (H.R. 3884) to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for reinvestment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to House Resolution 1244, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-67, modified by the amendment printed in House Report 116-607, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H. R. 3884

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement Act of 2020" or the "MORE Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) The communities that have been most harmed by cannabis prohibition are benefiting the least from the legal marijuana marketplace.

(2) A legacy of racial and ethnic injustices, compounded by the disproportionate collateral consequences of 80 years of cannabis prohibition enforcement, now limits participation in the industry.

(3) 36 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam have adopted laws allowing legal access to cannabis, and 15 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands have adopted laws legalizing cannabis for adult recreational use.

(4) A total of 47 States have reformed their laws pertaining to cannabis despite the Schedule I status of marijuana and its Federal criminalization.

(5) Legal cannabis sales totaled \$9.5 billion in 2017 and are projected to reach \$23 billion by 2022.

(6) According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), enforcing cannabis prohibition laws costs taxpayers approximately \$3.6 billion a year.

(7) The continued enforcement of cannabis prohibition laws results in over 600,000 arrests annually, disproportionately impacting people of color who are almost 4 times more likely to be arrested for cannabis possession than their White counterparts, despite equal rates of use across populations.

(8) People of color have been historically targeted by discriminatory sentencing practices resulting in Black men receiving drug sentences that are 13.1 percent longer than sentences imposed for White men and Latinos being nearly 6.5 times more likely to receive a Federal sentence for cannabis possession than non-Hispanic Whites.

(9) In 2013, simple cannabis possession was the fourth most common cause of deportation for any offense and the most common cause of deportation for drug law violations.

(10) Fewer than one-fifth of cannabis business owners identify as minorities and only approximately 4 percent are black.

(11) Applicants for cannabis licenses are limited by numerous laws, regulations, and exorbitant permit applications, licensing fees, and costs in these States, which can require more than \$700,000.

(12) Historically disproportionate arrest and conviction rates make it particularly difficult for people of color to enter the legal cannabis marketplace, as most States bar these individuals from participating.

(13) Federal law severely limits access to loans and capital for cannabis businesses, disproportionately impacting minority small business owners.

(14) Some States and municipalities have taken proactive steps to mitigate inequalities in the legal cannabis marketplace and ensure equal participation in the industry.

SEC. 3. DECRIMINALIZATION OF CANNABIS.

(a) CANNABIS REMOVED FROM SCHEDULE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.—

(1) REMOVAL IN STATUTE.—Subsection (c) of schedule I of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) is amended—

(A) by striking "(10) Marihuana.,"; and

(B) by striking "(17) Tetrahydrocannabinols, except for tetrahydrocannabinols in hemp (as defined in section 297A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946).";

(2) REMOVAL FROM SCHEDULE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall finalize a rulemaking under section 201(a)(2) removing marihuana and tetrahydrocannabinols from the

schedules of controlled substances. For the purposes of the Controlled Substances Act, marihuana and tetrahydrocannabinols shall each be deemed to be a drug or other substance that does not meet the requirements for inclusion in any schedule. A rulemaking under this paragraph shall be considered to have taken effect as of the date of enactment of this Act for purposes of any offense committed, case pending, conviction entered, and, in the case of a juvenile, any offense committed, case pending, and adjudication of juvenile delinquency entered before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—The Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 102(44) (21 U.S.C. 802(44)), by striking "marihuana.,";

(2) in section 401(b) (21 U.S.C. 841(b))—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (vi), by inserting "or" after the semicolon;

(II) by striking clause (vii); and

(III) by redesignating clause (viii) as clause (vii);

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (vi), by inserting "or" after the semicolon;

(II) by striking clause (vii); and

(III) by redesignating clause (viii) as clause (vii);

(iii) in subparagraph (C), in the first sentence, by striking "subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D)" and inserting "subparagraphs (A) and (B)";

(iv) by striking subparagraph (D);

(v) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (D); and

(vi) in subparagraph (D)(i), as so redesignated, by striking "subparagraphs (C) and (D)" and inserting "subparagraph (C)";

(B) by striking paragraph (4); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), and (7) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively;

(3) in section 402(c)(2)(B) (21 U.S.C. 842(c)(2)(B)), by striking "marihuana.,";

(4) in section 403(d)(1) (21 U.S.C. 843(d)(1)), by striking "marihuana.,";

(5) in section 418(a) (21 U.S.C. 859(a)), by striking the last sentence;

(6) in section 419(a) (21 U.S.C. 860(a)), by striking the last sentence;

(7) in section 422(d) (21 U.S.C. 863(d))—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "marihuana.,"; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking "such as a marihuana cigarette.,"; and

(8) in section 516(d) (21 U.S.C. 886(d)), by striking "section 401(b)(6)" each place the term appears and inserting "section 401(b)(5)".

(c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM DRUG CONTROL ACT OF 1986.—The National Forest System Drug Control Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 559b et seq.) is amended—

(A) in section 15002(a) (16 U.S.C. 559b(a)) by striking "marihuana and other";

(B) in section 15003(2) (16 U.S.C. 559c(2)) by striking "marihuana and other"; and

(C) in section 15004(2) (16 U.S.C. 559d(2)) by striking "marihuana and other".

(2) INTERSECTION OF COMMUNICATIONS.—Section 2516 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (1)(e), by striking "marihuana.,"; and

(B) in subsection (2) by striking "marihuana".

(3) FMCSA PROVISIONS.—

(A) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 31301(5) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "section 31306," and inserting "sections 31306, 31306a, and subsections (b) and (c) of section 31310.,".

(B) DEFINITION.—Section 31306(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—